ABSTRACT

In data communication among a plurality of component units in an apparatus, transition state information

5   corresponding to a state transition which has occurred in a sending side unit is sent to a receiving side unit in serial communication. In the receiving side unit, a state control signal is regenerated at the time when a given delay time has elapsed from the occurrence time of the state transition.

10   Therefore, the state control signal can be sent in serial communication without any time skew. Also, in serial communication between the sending side unit and the receiving side unit, even if a control command signal is to be sent, in addition to the state control signal, a transition state

15   information can be identified from the received signal, by means of adding identification information to the sending information.